

## **SPINE STABILIZATION SYSTEM**

### **ABSTRACT**

5           The invention generally concerns a spine stabilization system having one or more flexible  
elements having an opening or slit. The flexible element may be integrally formed in a rod  
having ends capable of receiving fasteners. The flexible element may limit rotation, flexion-  
extension, or lateral bending of the spine. The slit or opening may form helical pattern on the  
rod, and more than one slit or opening may be provided. The flexible element may be  
10 conformable to the natural spinal movement.